

REMARKS:

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 3-5, 7, 9, 11, 13-15, and 20-33 will be pending. Claims 16-19 have been canceled, and claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, and 12 were cancelled previously. Claims 3, 9, 11, and 13-15 have been amended, and new claims 20-33 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

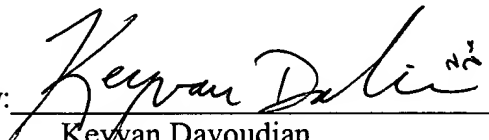
A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Preliminary Amendment was filed on January 10, 2005. In the Office Communication dated April 8, 2005, the Examiner indicated that the preliminary amendment of January 10th did not comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121(c) because, in the claim listing, the status of every claim was not indicated. The Examiner also stated that, since the RCE and preliminary amendment “appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH** or **THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date” of the Office Communication to submit an amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner and, in response, submits herein a supplemental (preliminary) amendment, with the claim listing including the proper status of every claim. It is therefore respectfully submitted that, the concerns indicated in the April 8, 2005 Office Communication having been addressed, the instant amendment should be entered and considered in full along with the remarks of the January 10, 2005 amendment.

It is believed that claims 3-5, 7, 9, 11, and 13-15, as amended, as well as new claims 20-33, are in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is

requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

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